

I am asking colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in support of this bill, so important to hardworking fishermen who put food on our tables so that they can continue with their task.

□ 1930

AMERICAN VETERANS DISABLED FOR LIFE MEMORIAL

(Ms. FRANKEL of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am the proud mother of a United States Marine war veteran, and our family is blessed he returned home with sound body and mind, but too many of our courageous heroes did not.

October 5 marks the 1-year anniversary of the dedication of the American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial. It is a beautiful tribute to the brave men and women who suffered permanent injuries on the battlefield. This memorial sits just south of our Capitol, and it reminds us every day of the selflessness of those who fought for our freedom and returned home with the scars of duty.

I offer my great thanks and appreciation to the 4 million veterans who are living today with service-related disabilities and the friends and the family who take care of them. The American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial celebrates your lives every day, as we all do in our hearts and our minds.

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF THE TOTI MENDEZ CARDIOPULMONARY DIAGNOSTIC SUITE

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tragically short life of Ramiro "Toti" Mendez and to honor the dedication of the Toti Mendez Cardiopulmonary Diagnostic Suite at Florida International University, my alma mater, in Miami.

Toti was an accomplished 20-year-old FIU student baseball player who passed away, sadly, on April 2, 2000, as a result of an undetected heart problem. Florida International University will celebrate the dedication of this important health resource on Monday, October 19. Parents of student athletes may now find the peace of mind that their sons or daughters are clear of any underlying heart issues before they ever hit the field.

Through the Toti Mendez Cardiopulmonary Diagnostic Suite, Toti's legacy will continue to live on at FIU in support of other student athletes throughout south Florida, indeed, throughout our great State.

I congratulate Toti's mom and the entire family for helping keep his leg-

acy alive and for saving so many student athletes' lives.

THE ROBOGALS ARE AN INSPIRATION TO YOUNG WOMEN

(Mr. FOSTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the triumph of the RoboGals, a student robotics team from the 11th Congressional District of Illinois.

The RoboGals are Kaiya Hollister, a fifth grader at the John C. Dunham STEM Partnership School, and Jensie Coonratt, a fourth grader at The Wheatlands Elementary School, both in Aurora, Illinois. They met at an after-school robotics club hosted by Chasewood Learning, an educational organization that uses Lego robots to teach students how to build and program their machines for competition.

After winning the regional competition at SciTech Hands On Museum in Aurora, Illinois, the RoboGals went on to win the national championship of the World Robotic Olympiad in Michigan. Now they advance to the world championship round in Qatar, taking on over 50 countries from all over the globe. I, together with all Americans, wish them the best of luck.

The RoboGals are an inspiration to young women across our country who are enthusiastic about science and engineering, and the 11th Congressional District is proud to have such bright young women representing our country on the global stage.

NUMBERS NEVER LIE—UNLESS THEY DO

(Mr. FITZPATRICK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, the numbers never lie—unless they do.

Each month we all react to the release of the employment report as the supposed indicator of economic health around our country. The most recent jobs numbers show an unemployment rate of 5.1 percent, but that headline number paints a picture that simply doesn't exist. It distorts the economic outlook and distracts this Chamber from working toward the creation of better jobs and more opportunities for millions of Americans.

Economists of all persuasions have criticized this method as overstating job market strength, noting that the Bureau of Labor Statistics only considers limited factors when reporting the unemployment rate and ignoring things like underemployment or the number of workers who have left the labor force. What we are left with is a flawed view of labor market strength.

With that in mind, I have joined with colleagues in introducing the Labor Statistics Improvement Act, which

would clear the way for changes in methodology that could help the unemployment rate more accurately reflect the strength of the labor market.

If the jobs report dictates how this Congress addresses real economic challenges, we can't afford to get it wrong.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ERMA JOHNSON HADLEY

(Mr. VEASEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a dedicated Fort Worth community leader, Erma Johnson Hadley, who passed away last week after a very long battle with cancer.

Mrs. Hadley was born in Leggett, Texas, where she graduated from high school in 1959 and became the first Black woman from Leggett to attend college. Mrs. Hadley attended Prairie View A&M University.

When she finished her career teaching in high school, she came to Tarrant County College, where she served in a variety of different roles, including vice chancellor, and was ultimately named the interim chancellor and chancellor in 2010 of the Tarrant County College system.

Chancellor Hadley was known for her passion for ensuring accessible and affordable education for students in Tarrant County. I will never forget Mrs. Erma Johnson Hadley telling me a story about how while all kids are not necessarily gifted equally, all kids that put their mind to it, if their parents work with them, can get a good education and make something of themselves.

Mrs. Hadley believed in each and every student that attended Tarrant County College, and I know that the campus and the students are going to continue to benefit from her legacy and her belief in them.

She is survived by her husband, Bill Hadley; Ardenia Johnson Gould, who is her daughter; and Spencer Gould, her son-in-law; and a grandchild.

IT IS TIME FOR CONGRESS TO ACT

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this is a very difficult time for Americans as we mourn with our fellow citizens in Oregon. I offer my deepest sympathy to the congressional delegation here in the Congress, as we join them in their expression of deep sympathy to those who were injured and those who lost their lives, to the families of those individuals.

I spoke to a member of the United States military, and he indicated that in battle he had two guns. We understand that the perpetrator of this horrible act had at least 14 guns, or double-digit guns.

I have heard the refrain: "What else will have to happen before we address